

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-12 and 25-28 were pending prior to the Office Action.

In this Amendment, claims 3-4, 7-8, 10, 12 and 26 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore, claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 11, 25, 27 and 28 are pending. Claim 1 is independent.

A. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicants appreciate that claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 11, 25, 27 and 28 are indicated to define allowable subject matter.

B. NO CHANGE TO SCOPE

In this Amendment, claims 1 and 11 are amended merely to address informal and clerical issues. The scopes of the claims are not changed by the claim amendments.

C. OBJECTION TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 stands objected to for informalities. To address this issue, claim 1 is amended as the Examiner suggests. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claim 1 be withdrawn.

D. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 3-4, 7-8, 10, 12 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over different combinations of Shimotomai (U.S. Patent No. 6,367,530), Toyama (JP-11278626 A), Meyer (U.S. Patent No. 4,997,507), Focke et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,674,542) and Garbini et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,883,386). The rejections of these claims are rendered moot.

Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 3-4, 7-8, 10, 12 and 26 be withdrawn.

E. CONCLUSION

All objections and rejections raised in the Office Action having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Respectfully submitted,

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